COMPANY NEWS



For Immediate Release Associated

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June 15, 2015 FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Associated honored by Department of Defense for Extraordinary Support

ADDISON, IL, June 15, 2015 – Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), a Department of Defense (DoD) office, recently presented Associated with two awards for their continued support of this organization.

The first in ESGR's series of awards is the Patriot Award. The Patriot Award is given to an individual within a company that reflects the efforts made to support Citizen Warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families and granting leaves of absence if needed. An employee serving in the National Guard or Reserve, may nominate individual supervisors for support provided directly to the nominating



Service member and his or her family. This award was given to Rod Lyster, Fields Service Manager at Associated

When asked about this award Rod said "I am incredibly humbled by this award as the Members of our National Guard and Reserve have already sacrificed so much for our Country and are the most highly trained and skilled work force I have had the pleasure of working with. We look forward to our continued relationship with ESGR."

The second honor given to Associated was the "Above and Beyond" Award in recognition of extraordinary support of its employees who serve in the Indiana Guard and Reserve.

"The ESGR Above and Beyond Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize American employers providing extraordinary patriotic support and cooperation to their employees, who like the citizen warriors before them, have answered their nation's call to serve, said Steve Lynch ESGR state chair. "Supportive employers are critical to maintaining the strength and readiness of the nation's Guard and Reserve units."

Associated joins thousands of American employers who have reviewed and amended their current human resources policies to ensure compliance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). Many employers provide support far beyond what USERRA requires to include pay differential to offset the loss of wages, and extension of health care benefits which complement coverage provided by the military when their employees are mobilized.

"I have the utmost respect for those who have served our country and believe every organization has an obligation to support these highly trained individuals when they are ready to return to the workforce. We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with such a great organization", said Mike Romano, President/CEO of Associated, when asked about this award.

About Associated:

Celebrating over 50 years of providing customers with innovative solutions that optimize space, labor and order fulfillment operations within their supply chain, Associated understands that handling materials in the supply chain should be more than material handling. By utilizing their unparalleled experience and industry best practices they are able to evaluate current methods and processes for storage, order fulfillment, labor and equipment utilization and recommend practical strategies to enhance their effectiveness and reduce overall cost. Featuring leading-edge engineering, fleet management and labor optimization services to compliment industry-leading sales, service, rentals and parts, Associated has been the recipient of multiple awards in recognition of being a premier organization in the industry.

About Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve:

ESGR seeks to foster a culture in which all employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard and Reserve in the United States. ESGR facilitates and promotes a cooperative culture of employer support for National Guard and Reserve service by developing and advocating mutually beneficial initiatives, recognizing outstanding employer support, increasing awareness of applicable laws and policies, resolving potential conflicts between employers and their service members, and acting as the employers' principal advocate within DoD. Paramount to ESGR's mission is encouraging employment of Guardsmen and Reservists who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce.

For more information about ESGR outreach programs or volunteer opportunities, call 1-800-336-4590 or visit www.ESGR.mil.

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For additional information about Associated, visit the company Web site at www.associated-solutions.com or call (800) 755-7201.

<u>Publisher note</u> - Send reader responses to: Associated

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